

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend Claim 7 as follows:

1. (Previously presented) A method for attenuating the motion of a hydraulic cylinder (10, 11) of mobile work machinery, in which prior to reaching one of the limits of travel of the hydraulic cylinder (10, 11) motion speed of the hydraulic cylinder (10, 11) is reduced, and the hydraulic cylinder (10, 11) is moved to the respective limit of travel at reduced speed;

wherein for the purpose of reducing at least one of the speed, the inflow to, and the outflow from, the hydraulic cylinder (10, 11) is throttled by a flow control device (4, 5, 6), and prior to the respective limit of travel being reached, the motion speed of the hydraulic cylinder (10, 11) is registered, and the point in time (P7, P7') when throttling commences is changed depending on the registered motion speed.

2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the throttling speed of the flow control device (4, 5, 6) is preset irrespective of the registered motion speed of the hydraulic cylinder (10, 11).

3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein commencement of attenuation (P7, P7') is delayed with reduced registered motion speed.

4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein a fixed initial point in time (P7) is always preset if the registered motion speed is greater than, or equal to, a preset limit speed, and, if the motion speed registered is below the limit speed, the point in time (P7') is delayed in relation to the fixed point in time (P7) by a period of time (t_f).

5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 4, wherein the period of time (t_f) is changed depending on the registered motion speed.

6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein prior to reaching the respective limits of travel, two limit signal transmitters (S_1 , S_2) which are arranged in tandem, are overtravelled; the period of time (t_k) between overtravel of the two limit signal transmitters (S_1 , S_2) is registered, from the registered period of time (t_k) and a preset period of time (t_s) a time difference (Δt) is determined; and according to the time difference (Δt), a delay (t_f) of the point in time (P7') when attenuation commences is determined.

7. (Currently amended) A device for attenuating the motion of a hydraulic cylinder of mobile work machinery, in particular of hydraulic excavators, according to claim 1 and comprising

a position registering device (17) for registering a preliminary limit position of the hydraulic cylinder (10, 11),

a control device (4, 5, 6) for throttling at least one of inflow to and outflow from the hydraulic cylinder (10, 11),

a control device (15) for controlling the flow control device (4, 5, 6) when the preliminary limit position is reached,

a speed registering device (16) for registering the motion speed of the hydraulic cylinder when the preliminary limit position is reached, and

the control device (15) comprises a delay device for delaying driving the flow control device (4, 5, 6), depending on the registered motion speed.

8. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 7, wherein the speed registering device (16) comprises two limit signal transmitters (S_1 , S_2) arranged in tandem, and a time registering device (19) is provided which registers the period of time (t_k) between the signals of the two limit signal transmitters (S_1 , S_2).

9. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 8, wherein one of the limit signal transmitters (S_1 , S_2) at the same time forms the position registering device (17).

10. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 7, wherein first and second markings (21, 22) are provided at at least one of the piston rod (18) of the hydraulic cylinder (10, 11) and a detection transmitter (20) coupled therewith, with said first and second markings (21, 22) corresponding to the two preliminary limit positions, and both

markings being able to be registered by at least one of the position registering device (17) and speed registering device (16).

11. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 7, wherein the speed registering device (16) is integrated in the hydraulic cylinder (10, 11).

12. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 7, wherein the speed registering device (16) is arranged to be separate from the hydraulic cylinder (10, 11) and is associated with a detection transmitter (20).

13. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 7, wherein the control device (15) comprises a comparator device (23) for comparing the registered period of time (t_k) with a preset period of time (t_s) and forming the difference between the two periods of time (t_k, t_s), and the delay device comprises a delay transmitter which presets the delay (t_f) at which the flow control device (4, 5, 6) is driven, with such presetting depending on the determined difference.

14. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 7, wherein the position registering device (17) is associated with a hinge point of two components of the motion train which is driven by the hydraulic cylinder (10, 11), with said position registering device (17) registering the position of the two components in relation to each other.

15. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 8, wherein first and second markings (21, 22) are provided at least one of the piston rod (18) of the hydraulic cylinder (10, 11) and a detection transmitter (20) coupled therewith, with said first and second markings (21, 22) corresponding to the two preliminary limit positions, and both markings being able to be registered by at least one of the position registering device (17) and speed registering device (16).

16. ((Previously presented) The device according to claim 9, wherein first and second markings (21, 22) are provided at least one of the piston rod (18) of the hydraulic cylinder (10, 11) and a detection transmitter (20) coupled therewith, with said first and second markings (21, 22) corresponding to the two preliminary limit positions, and both markings being able to be registered by at least one of the position registering device (17) and speed registering device (16).

17. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 8, wherein the control device (15) comprises a comparator device (23) for comparing the registered period of time (t_k) with a preset period of time (t_s) and forming the difference between the two periods of time (t_k, t_s), and the delay device comprises a delay transmitter which presets the delay (t_f) at which the flow control device (4, 5, 6) is driven, with such presetting depending on the determined difference.

18. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 9, wherein the control device (15) comprises a comparator device (23) for comparing the registered period of time (t_k) with a preset period of time (t_s) and forming the difference between the two periods of time (t_k , t_s), and the delay device comprises a delay transmitter which presets the delay (t_f) at which the flow control device (4, 5, 6) is driven, with such presetting depending on the determined difference.

19. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 10, wherein the control device (15) comprises a comparator device (23) for comparing the registered period of time (t_k) with a preset period of time (t_s) and forming the difference between the two periods of time (t_k , t_s), and the delay device comprises a delay transmitter which presets the delay (t_f) at which the flow control device (4, 5, 6) is driven, with such presetting depending on the determined difference.

20. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 15, wherein the control device (15) comprises a comparator device (23) for comparing the registered period of time (t_k) with a preset period of time (t_s) and forming the difference between the two periods of time (t_k , t_s), and the delay device comprises a delay transmitter which presets the delay (t_f) at which the flow control device (4, 5, 6) is driven, with such presetting depending on the determined difference.

21. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 5, wherein the period of time (t_f) is selected proportionally in relation to the registered motion speed.

22. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 13, wherein said presetting is proportional to said determined difference.